



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Announces 129 Projects in Southwest Region *Under President's Economic Recovery Plan*

From the deserts of Arizona to the Gulf Coast of Texas, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will undertake more than 129 construction, energy efficiency, habitat restoration and other improvement projects at national wildlife refuges, fish hatcheries and other public and private lands to create jobs and ensure our nation's fish and wildlife resources, treasured landscapes, and rich heritage are conserved for future generations, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced in April. These projects total approximately \$29.9 million for improvements within the Southwest.

Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) received funding under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 to construct a new administrative facility on the Refuge. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Refuge has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for this project. The new administrative facility will include office space for staff and volunteers of the Refuge. The facility will be approximately 2700 square feet and will be constructed south of FM 2004, between Austin Bayou and CR 208 near Otter Slough. The address for the area is: 24907 FM 2004, Angleton, Texas 77515. This office building is being constructed on the Refuge to assist the Refuge in meeting its mission of providing more accessible service and convenience to the American taxpayer.

The Refuge is seeking public review and comments from February 10 to March 12 on the draft Environmental Assessment. All comments will be reviewed and incorporated in the final EA. Copies of the EA are available by contacting the Refuge Office at 979-964-4011 or from the Refuges' website at www.southwest.fws.gov/refuges/texas/texasmidcoast.

The Refuge will collect public input through December 21, 2009. Please provide any comments to:

Jennifer Sanchez, Project Leader
Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge
2547 CR 316
Brazoria, Texas 77566
(979) 964-4011
Jennifer_sanchez@fws.gov

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.